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the country (where work for the old is more abundant)—varying from 15.50 in the agricultural districts of the North to 38 in London. Where population dwindles by emigration the departure of the young and strong leaves behind an excessive proportion of paupers. Thus, in certain parts of London and the other great cities, where population has diminished, about half of the old require public assistance. This is true, however, only of the cities, for in the country, if population decreases, the land is better able to support the remainder and there is more work which the old can do. Of the old men who find work in the country, 13 per cent. make less than five shillings per week; only 10 per cent. make over sixteen shillings. Thrift shows itself rarely in saving money during the working years, but chiefly in benefit societies (not ordinarily giving life insurance), or in some of the forms of coöperation.

Mr. Booth disavows, for the present, any general purpose of drawing conclusions. The question as to the effect of out-relief he approaches somewhat cautiously, and emerges from a maze of indications and counter-indications with no very positive result *pro* or *contra*. Yet the tendency of the discussion is rather unfavorable to out-relief, as pauperism appears to be least frequent—taking the country at large—where it is practically denied, unions in which a moderate degree of restriction is imposed being only less fortunate. Yet paupers are found in greatest proportion under methods midway between these two, where out-relief is granted, but with very great restriction. Mr. Booth recognizes the impossibility of deciding whether the method of administration is a cause or an effect, but he does not take account of the discouragement to dependence on charity which must result, where indoor-relief prevails, from the dread of going to “the house.”

Another volume is promised dealing “with the administration of the poor law as regards the old and with proposals for their relief” in other ways, and a government commission of which Mr. Booth is a member has taken under consideration the questions dealt with in the present book.

A. P. WINSTON.

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*Handbook of Sociological Information, with especial reference to New York City.* By W. H. TOLMAN and W. I. HULL. New York: The City Vigilance League, 1894. 8vo. pp. xi + 257.

THIS volume is prepared for the use of leaders of social opinion, as editors, philanthropists, ministers, and citizens of public spirit. It is not a work for specialists. Part First offers a bibliography of works

accessible to American readers. The topics are Sociology, the State, the Church, the Family, Labor, Charity, the Child Problem, Criminology and Penology, Economics, Lodging Houses, Municipal Problems, People's Clubs, the Salvation Army, Social Problems, Temperance, Tenement Houses, the Slums, University Settlements, Womanhood, Sociological Journals and Quarterlies. Under each head is given an analysis of the essential factors of the problem to be studied, and in case of the more important books their chief topics are mentioned. By this ingenious arrangement a busy citizen is enabled to go most quickly and directly to the work he needs.

American cities are already rich in social experiments as well as in a growing literature. Theories are put to the test of trial under varying conditions. In the Second Part of this volume the editors have printed descriptions of the aims and methods of many typical institutions, and these descriptions have been prepared by men and women closely identified with the movements they characterize. More than one hundred societies of nearly thirty distinct types are thus described. These accounts are brief and general, and need to be supplemented by a study of documents and reports, but they serve their purpose in an admirable way. The book will be a substantial aid to intelligent social workers who desire to widen the scope of their studies and to avail themselves of the historical studies of theory and the results of actual experience in various lines of ameliorative activity.

C. R. HENDERSON.